

§ 782.25

for inspection by representatives of USDA.

§ 782.25 Length of time records are to be kept.

The records required to be kept under this part shall be retained for 3 years following the filing date of the applicable record. Records shall be kept for such longer period of time as may be requested in writing by USDA representatives.

PART 784—LAMB MEAT ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Sec.

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AUTHORITY: Clause (3) of section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935, as amended; 7 U.S.C. 612c.

SOURCE: 67 FR 13710, Mar. 26, 2002, unless otherwise noted.

§ 784.1 Applicability; available payments.

(a) This part establishes the Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program pursuant to Clause (3) of section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935, as amended (7 U.S.C. 612c). The purpose of this program is to provide benefits to sheep and lamb operations to reestablish their purchasing power in connection with the normal production of sheep and lambs for domestic consumption and boost the long-term development

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and growth of sheep and lamb production in the United States.

(b) Under and subject to this part, FSA will provide with respect to sheep and lamb operations: Year 1 payments in which sheep and lamb operations will receive payments for, during the time period encompassing Year 1 as defined in § 784.3, purchasing eligible rams for breeding, enrolling their herd in a sheep improvement program, and for making improvements to their production facilities; Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4 payments for marketings of eligible slaughter lambs or feeder lambs during the period encompassing those time periods; and Year 3 and Year 4 payments for retaining or purchasing ewe lambs for breeding stock to replenish the lamb inventory during the period encompassing those time periods. Unless otherwise determined by the agency in accordance with the provisions of this part, the amount that may be expended under this part shall not exceed \$67.7 million. Claims that exceed that amount will be prorated in accordance with the provisions for proration that are contained in this part.

(c) To be eligible for any payments under this part, the sheep and lamb operation must be engaged in the business of producing and marketing agricultural products at the time of filing the application.

§ 784.2 Administration.

This part shall be administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) under the general direction and supervision of the Administrator, FSA, or his designee and the employees of the Agency.

§ 784.3 Definitions.

The definitions set forth in this section shall be applicable for all purposes of administering the Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program established by this part.

Agricultural Marketing Service or AMS means the Agricultural Marketing Service of the Department.

Application means the Lamb Meat Adjustment Assistance Program Application, Forms FSA-382 and FSA-383.

Average Choice Confirmation means a muscling score of that designation assigned in accordance with official USDA standards and procedures.